

## Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OEXC, UR

SUBJECT: EXCHANGES: IREX PROGRAMS

REF.: A) MOSCOW 10078, B) MOSCOW 10175

1. FOLLOWING ARE RESPONSES TO QUERIES SUBMITTED REF. (A):

- A) ATTENDANCE AT LANGUAGE CLASSES: IREX NOTES THAT INITIAL 5-WEEK PORTION OF PROGRAM HAS BEEN SET ASIDE SPECIFICALLY FOR INTENSIVE LANGUAGE TRAINING, AND IREX VIEW, BASED ON PRIOR EXPERIENCE, IS THAT THERE ARE FEW SCHOLARS WHO WOULD NOT BENEFIT FROM COURSE. IREX POLICY, IN WHICH DEPARTMENT CONCURS, IS TO ENCOURAGE ALL SCHOLARS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITY TO REFRESH AND DEEPEN LANGUAGE SKILLS BEFORE EMBARKING ON FORMAL PROGRAMS OF STUDY AND RESEARCH. IF IN INDIVIDUAL CASE A SCHOLAR IS CONVINCED THAT FURTHER LANGUAGE STUDY WILL NOT BE PRODUCTIVE, IREX HAS NO RPT NO OBJECTION TO SCHOLAR'S APPROACHING FACULTY AND STAFF OF LANGUAGE PROGRAM TO SEEK WAIVER OF CLASS ATTENDANCE REQUIRE-

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MENT.

B) FAMILY VISITATION TRAVEL: ALTHOUGH FAMILY VISITATION PROGRAM WAS ESTABLISHED PRIMARILY TO PERMIT FAMILY MEMBERS TO VISIT SCHOLARS IN USSR, IREX IS

PREPARED ENTERTAIN REQUESTS BY INDIVIDUAL GSE'S TO VISIT FAMILY HERE INSTEAD. INTERESTED SCHOLARS SHOULD SUBMIT SUCH REQUESTS DIRECTLY TO IREX FOR CONSIDERATION. FAMILY VISITATION PROGRAM DOES NOT RPT NOT APPLY TO STUDENTS WHO ARE IN USSR FOR ONE SEMESTER ONLY.

C) STIPEND PAYMENT SCHEDULE: IREX RECOGNIZES STUDENTS' CONCERN RE TIMING OF MONTHLY STIPEND PAYMENTS BUT DOES NOT FORESEE ANY PROBLEM WITH ACTUAL PAYMENTS. IREX RECORDS INDICATE THAT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A CASE OF UNDERPAYMENT TO A SCHOLAR.

2. RE PARA. 4 OF REF. (B), IREX ADVISES THAT SOVIET SUMMER LANGUAGE TEACHERS ARE SCHEDULED DEPART NYC FOR MOSCOW VIA AEROFLOT ON SEPTEMBER 2.

3. DEPARTMENT AND IREX ARE STUDYING IMPLICATIONS OF SOVIET DECISIONS RELAYED IN PARA. 1 AND 2 OF REF. (B) AND WILL ADVISE SOONEST.

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